

Disabled Parking Blue Badge

Who automatically qualifies for a Blue Badge?

You automatically qualify for a Blue Badge if at least one of the following applies:

- You receive the higher rate of the mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance.
- You receive a Personal Independence Payment (PIP) because you can't walk more than 50 metres (a score of eight points or more under the 'moving around' activity of the mobility component).
- You receive the mobility component of PIP and have obtained ten points specifically for Descriptor E under the 'planning and following journeys' activity, on the grounds that you are unable to undertake any journey because it would cause you overwhelming psychological distress.
- You are registered blind (severely sight impaired).
- You receive a War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement.
- You have received a lump sum benefit within tariff levels 1-8 of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation) Scheme and have been certified as having a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking.

Who else may qualify for a Blue Badge?

You may be eligible for a badge if one or more of the following applies:

- You cannot walk at all.
- You cannot walk without help from someone else or using mobility aids.
- You find walking very difficult due to pain, breathlessness or the time it takes.
- Walking is dangerous to your health and safety.
- You have a terminal illness, which means you cannot walk or find walking very difficult and have a DS1500 form.

- You have a severe disability in both arms and drive regularly but cannot operate pay-and-display parking machines.
- You are constantly a significant risk to yourself or others near vehicles, in traffic or car parks.
- You struggle severely to plan or follow a journey.
- You find it difficult or impossible to control your actions and lack awareness of the impact you could have on others.
- You regularly have intense and overwhelming responses to situations causing temporary loss of behavioural control.
- You frequently become extremely anxious or fearful of public/open spaces.

Your local council will decide if you are eligible for a badge. They cannot start the assessment process until they have all the necessary evidence and it may take twelve weeks or longer to assess your application. If they decide that you are not eligible and you think that they did not take account of all the facts, you can ask them to consider your application again.

Proof of eligibility

If you are applying without one of the benefits, the application will need to be assessed by the issuing local council. To help assess the application, you will be asked to provide extra information depending on the answers you give when you are checking eligibility

If you cannot walk or find walking difficult or you have a non-visible (hidden) condition, you will be asked to provide details of any:

- Relevant medication that is taken
- Relevant treatments that you receive or are due to receive
- Healthcare or associated professionals that have been involved with the treatment of your condition

If you cannot walk or find walking difficult, you will also be asked questions around how your condition affects your walking.

If you have a non-visible (hidden) condition, you will also be asked questions around how journeys between your vehicle and destination are affected by your condition.

How do I apply for a Blue Badge?

The St Barnabas Welfare and Benefits team will assist you to make an application, provided you meet the qualifying criteria. We will complete as much of the form as possible and then send it to you for checking and signing. The signed form will then need to be forward to the relevant county council with:

- Proof of address (dated within last twelve months).
- Proof of ID photocopied on A4 sized paper - PLEASE DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.
- Proof of your automatic entitlement (if applicable).
- A passport style photograph of yourself.
- Supporting evidence such as proof of diagnosis, confirmation of ongoing treatments, care plans (or EHCPs), prescriptions.

How to claim



If you think you may be eligible for a Blue Badge, call the **St Barnabas Welfare and Benefits Team** on **01476 513544**, who will assist you to make an application.

